

Edwards: Waco VA to receive \$7.9 million in Construction Funding from Stimulus

(Washington, D.C.) – U.S. Representative Chet Edwards announced today that the Waco VA hospital will receive \$7.9 million from the recent federal stimulus bill for infrastructure construction projects.

“I am thrilled that the VA has decided to fund these upgrades to facilities at Waco VA Medical Center,” Edwards said. “Not only will these stimulus funds create local jobs, but the men and women who are employed will know they are giving something back to the veterans who have sacrificed so much for our nation.”

As Chairman of the House Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee, Edwards authored \$1 billion to be spent on high priority maintenance projects at VA hospitals and clinics across the country. There were no earmarks in the stimulus bill, which allowed the VA to determine the highest priority projects in each region.

The Waco VA received several projects totaling \$7.952 million, including:

\$2.5 million to Replace Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Systems, Phase 1 \$500,000 to Relocate the Canteen from Building 8 to Building 1 \$760,000 for an Electrical Feeder Upgrade \$745,081 to Renovate/Upgrade the Existing Water Tower \$800,000 to Improve/Enhance Storm Water Drainage \$900,000 for Road Repairs/Replacement (Phase 2) \$747,000 to Replace Windows in Building 1 \$1,000,000 to Renovate the Basement of Building 6 for Rehabilitation Service

“These types of infrastructure projects might not sound exciting to some people, but they are an important part of the overall effort to ensure the quality of health care and living conditions our veterans deserve. In addition, properly done maintenance on roads and buildings actually lowers long-term costs to taxpayers. Supporting our economy and veterans is a win-win use of the federal stimulus dollars,” concluded Edwards.

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